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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each document so listed is enclosed.

U. S. Patent No. 6,005,935 Japan 10-240520

The foregoing Japanese document was cited at page 2 of the specification of the subject application and may be deemed relevant for the reasons given therein.

An English Abstract for the foregoing Japanese document has been located and is enclosed herewith. It is also noted that an English language counterpart (U.S. Patent

6,005,935) for the foregoing Japanese document has been located and has been cited herein for the Examiner's consideration.

In view of the foregoing discussion of the Japanese document in the subject specification, as well as the English Abstract and the English language counterpart submitted herewith, the concise explanation of relevance for the non-English document under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) is believed to be satisfied.

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,

California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to

our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney for Applicant

Registration No. 42, 746

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO 30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-2200

Facsimile: (212) 218-2200